Securitymen killed in North-Eastern States

*320. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the insurgents in the north-eastern States have killed a number of securitymen recently;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to control them; and

(c) which are the foreign countries which are supplying them arms?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

NSCN extremists have recently killed a number of security-men.

As a part of the strategy of control insurgency in the North-East region, the whole of Manipur and parts of Tripura, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh have been declared as 'disturbed areas under the Armed Forces (Assam and Manipur) Special Powers Act, 1958. Vigilance on the border has been stepped up to check infiltration/exfiltration of the extremists from across the border. The State/UT Governments have been requested to utilise the provisions of Terrorists and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1985 to curb the activities of extremists. The intelligence set-up in the regon has been geared up to effectively deal with the extremists elements.

Nothing specific has yet been known to estalish the involvement of any foreign country in the supply of arms to NSCN.

Artificial rains in Saurashtra Gujarat

†1482. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether artificial rain is a viable proposition and whether we are equipped for this operation, technologically and otherwise;

(b) whether Government have received requests from the Gujarat Government or from farmers of Saurashtra for early operations for artificial rain in Saurashtra region in view of delay in monsoon this year. if so, what action has been taken thereon;

(c) whether Government are considering to undertake artificial rain operations while the monsoon clouds are accumulated and to give necessary direction to the State Government for undertaking wide spread operation for artificial rain;

(d) whether Government are considering any financial and technological assistance to the State; and

(e) whether there is any programme for artificial rain in Saurashtra and north Gujarat, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) While artificial rain making is technically feasible under a set of favourable conditions of cloud height, temprature and moisture contents etc., for all practical purposes it is still in experimental stage and scientists are working on this.

(b) No such specific request has been received.

(c) As artificial rain making is still in experimental stage, there is no such proposal.

(d) At present there is no proposal for providing financial assistance to State Government for undertaking artificial rain operations. However, technical assistance to State Governments is provided as and when requests are received.

†Previous'y Unstarred Question 1132. transfered from the 1st August 1986.

(e) At present there is no proposal under consideration of Central Government to undertake artificial rain operations in Saurashtra and north-Gujarat.

Rain making experiment in Gujarat

†1483. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the Times of India on 16th July, 1986 captioned 'Rain making experiments in Gujarat;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether any positive results have been achieved by the experiments; and

(d) whether such experiments are also likely to be conducted in the States of Bihar and Orissa, if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State Government has been carrying out cloud seeding operations in different areas of Gujarat since middle of July, 1986. However, the results have not been very encouraging.

(d) There is no proposal at present to undertake artificial rain making experiments in the States of Bihar and Orissa.

†Previously Unstarred Question 1137, transferred from the 1st August, 1986.

Losses incurred in the implementation of some Public Sector Projects

†1484. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report in the "Hindustan Times" of the 31st March, 1986 to the effect that the public exchequer has incurred a loss of about Rs. 18,000 crores in the implementation of several public sector projects: if so, what are the facts in this regard and the project-wise break-up of the losses and also what are the reasons for such losses in each case; and

(b) by how much each 'key sector' project has been delayed and its estimated impact on the health of other projects?

THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) Yes. Sir; the Press report mentioned by the Hon. Members appears to be based on the information furnished by me in reply to Starred Question No. 249 by Shri K. Ramamurthy answered on 12-3-1986 in the Lok Sabha. The amount of Rs. 18351 crores cannot, however, be termed as loss to the public exchequer, it represents costs escalation of delayed projects which is attributable to a number of reasons including inflation in costs over time.

(b) The extent of delay in 134 projects costing above Rs. 20 crores as on 31-3-1986 is indicated. Sector wise, in the enclosed statement. (See Appendix CXXXIX, Annexure No.

†Previously Unstarred Question 1181, transferred from the 4th August 1986.